

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated 22 October 2003, the applicant requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks. Claims 24-26 and 30-61 are pending in the application, and are rejected. Claim 24 will be amended upon entry of the present amendment. No new matter has been added.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 24-26 and 30-61 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims in U.S. Patent No. 6,031,263. The applicant respectfully traverses.

A Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(b)(iv) is enclosed herewith to obviate the rejection.

Rejection of Claims Under §112

Claims 24-26 and 30-31 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph. The applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 24 will be amended upon entry of the present amendment to obviate the rejection. Claims 25, 26, 30, and 31 are dependent on claim 24.

CONCLUSION

The applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney at 612-373-6973 to discuss any questions which may remain with respect to the present application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

LEONARD FORBES ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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Date 22 JANUARY 2004

By _____

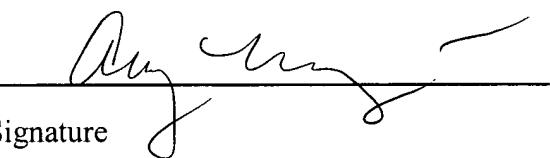
Robert E. Mates
Reg. No. 35,271



Name

Amy Moriarty

Signature



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 22nd day of January, 2004.